GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2844 ANSWERED ON 18/03/2025

ABP SYSTEMS UNDER MGNREGS

2844. SHRI S JAGATHRATCHAKAN:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has considered the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development and PanchayatiRaj's recommendation that the Aadhaar Based Payment System (ABPS) for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) payments should not be made mandatory due to potential worker exclusion and if so, the current stance of the Government on this recommendation;
- (b) the measures taken by the Government to address the low wages under MGNREGS, including any plans to link wages to an inflation index to ensure fair compensation for workers;
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the impact of the National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) app on MGNREGS workers, particularly concerning issues of accessibility andusability and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the current average wage rate under MGNREGS in various States, and comparison of these rates to the prevailing agricultural wage rates in the same regions?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN)

(a): To ensure timely payment of wages to the beneficiaries under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS and to address the issues arising due to frequent changes in bank account numbers of the beneficiaries and subsequent non-updation, it was decided to implement Aadhar Payment Bridge System (APBS). This has been made mandatory with effect from 1st January 2024. Payment of wages through Direct

Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode has had positive impact on the livelihood of the beneficiaries as it ensures that the payment reaches directly into the accounts of the intended beneficiaries. Currently, against total of 13.55 crore active workers 99.49% Aadhaar seeding of have already been completed. State/UTs are continuously being monitored by the **Central Government for achieving 100% Aadhaar Seeding and APBS** conversion in NREGASoft. As and when any issue is flagged by the State/UT or any other stakeholders, same is resolved on priority basis.

(b) &(e): As per section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, the Central Government may, by notification, specify the wage rate for unskilled work for Mahatma Gandhi NREGS workers. Accordingly, the Ministry of Rural Development notifies wage rate for unskilled workers under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA every financial year. To compensate the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA every financial year. To compensate the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) workers against inflation, the Ministry of Rural Development revises the wage rates every financial year based on Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labourer (CPI-AL). The wage rate is made applicable from 1st April of each financial year. There is around 7% increase in the average notified wage rate during the FY 2024-25 compared to FY 2023-24.

State/UT-wise average wage per personday under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the current financial year 2024-25 (as on 13.03.2025) is given at Annexure.

Each State/UT can provide wages over and above the wage rate notified by the Central Government.

(c)&(d): In order to ensure transparency and accountability in the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS), the Ministry has decided that States/UTs shall ensure capturing of attendance at the worksite through National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) App with two-time stamped, geo-tagged photographs of the workers in a day for all the works (except Individual Beneficiary Work) through NMMS w.e.f 1st January, 2023.

Further, to avoid any inconvenience to the workers due to NMMS, it has been decided that in case any worksite is not located in network covered area or attendance could not be uploaded due to

any other network issue then attendance can be captured in offline mode and can be uploaded once the device comes into network covered area. In case of exceptional circumstances owing to which attendance could not be uploaded, the provision for exemption also exists which has been further decentralized to the level of Block administration.

To make the NMMS App more robust and user friendly, new enhancements have been done such as the provision of Eye blink facility, Head Count facility, Mate id mapping with Muster roll and relaxation in proximity range in linear types of community works (permissible) etc. in the NMMS application.Usage of NMMS app has also helped to ensure timely payment of wages to the workers.

Any issue brought to the notice of Ministry concerning NMMS are attended on top priority basis and efforts are to made to resolve the same at the earliest. Further, continuous awareness campaigns and training programs are being organized across States/UTs to familiarize workers/officials with the NMMS app.

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Annexure referred to in reply to part (b)&(e) of LokSabhaUnstarred Question No. 2844 dated 18.03.2025

current financial year 2024-25 (as on 13.03.2025)		
SI. No.	States/UTs	Average Wage per personday (In Rs.)
1	Andhra Pradesh	255.52
2	Arunachal Pradesh	233.88
3	Assam	248.43
4	Bihar	239.03
5	Chhattisgarh	219.32
6	Goa	356
7	Gujarat	248.16
8	Haryana	363.55
9	Himachal Pradesh	270.89
10	Jammu And Kashmir	257.61
11	Jharkhand	271.79
12	Karnataka	328.57
13	Kerala	344.23
14	Ladakh	258.64
15	Madhya Pradesh	228.77
16	Maharashtra	282.1
17	Manipur	271.61
18	Meghalaya	253.9
19	Mizoram	265.95
20	Nagaland	233.97
21	Odisha	270.56
22	Punjab	316.86
23	Rajasthan	206.51
24	Sikkim	249.71
25	Tamil Nadu	275.14
26	Telangana	213.9
27	Tripura	218.35
28	Uttar Pradesh	236.33
29	Uttarakhand	236.89
30	West Bengal#	C
31	Andaman and Nicobar	330.15
32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	324
33	Lakshadweep@	C
34	Puducherry	290.7
	Total	252.63

As per NREGASoft

Release of funds to the State of West Bengal has been stopped since March 9, 2022, under Section 27 of the Act due to non-compliance with Central Government directives.

@ As per information available onNREGASoft no Persondays have been generated in Lakshadweep in FY 2424-25 till date.

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